

Alaska State Library
Historical Collections

Guide to Collection

Wilke, Richard W.

Richard W. Wilke Photograph Collection, 1964

PCA 241

Earthquake damage, Anchorage area, March 1964

2 Folders

Processed by: Staff

Revised by: Jacki Swearingen, Nov. 2012

ACQUISITION: Collection was donated by Jennifer L. Wilke, 1984, accession # 1984-015. Folder 2 was donated in March 2009, accession # 2012-041.

ACCESS: The collection is unrestricted.

COPYRIGHT: Permission to publish or reproduce material from the collection should be discussed with the Librarian.

PROCESSING: The slides were numbered and placed in Mylar slide pages. The collection was placed in archival folders and an archival box.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Born in 1920, Mr. Wilke received his B.S. degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Wisconsin at Madison. During World War II he served as a lieutenant in the U.S. Army. From 1960-1971, he was the Regional Engineer for the U.S. Forest Service (Region X) with headquarters in Juneau. At the time of his retirement in 1980, he was serving as the Regional Engineer for the U.S. Forest Service at Denver, Colorado. He died in 1981.

SCOPE AND CONTENTS NOTE

The earthquake which hit Alaska on March 27, 1964 caused extensive damage to Southcentral Alaska, including Anchorage, the state's largest urban area. Richard Wilke toured the Anchorage area immediately following the earthquake to inspect any damage done to federally maintained roads and bridges. These 35 mm colored transparencies record some of the damage done by the quake. (Acc. #1984-015)

SUBJECTS

Earthquake

INVENTORY

Folder 1

- 1-11 [Aerial views showing earthquake damage.]
- 12-52 [Homes damaged by the earthquake.]
- 53-68 [Damaged businesses in downtown Anchorage including 4th Ave.]
- 69-100 [Close-up views of damaged homes and buildings.]
- 101-105 [Anchorage Hardware and Sports Goods Store, showing close-up and distance views of damage.]
- 106-112 [Damaged J.C. Penney Store.]
- 113 [Broken windows and loose bricks in First Federal Savings building.]
- 114-116 [Window signs - downtown Anchorage.]
- 117-120 [Aerial and long distance views of the Turnagain residential area.]
- 121 [Damage to Airport terminal building.]
- 122 [Two story unidentified building with some damage.]

Folder 2

Map of Chugach Nat'l Forest [Map has hand written notes in red pencil indicating what land fell or raised and how far.]

16-18x10 b&w photos of March 1964 earthquake damage in Anchorage (10 photos) and Seward (6 photos)

U.S. Forest service "Sourdough Notes" April 3, 1964 with first-hand reports by USFS personnel.